


Heaven			Purgatory – Roman Catholic teaching			Key Vocabulary		
1	Actual?	Dante: Heaven is a paradise of reward. Bible: “there will be no more crying or mourning or pain”	1	Pope Gregory	Forgiveness is possible in the world to come so there is a stage before heaven	Beatific vision	Eternal happiness of being face to face with God	
2	Spiritual?	Aquinas’ Beatific Vision: eternal happiness in the spiritual presence of God. Total unity of self and God	2	Ambrose	Foretaste of heaven and hell before eternity	Election	Being chosen for Heaven or Hell by God	
3	Beatific Vision?	"The immediate knowledge of God which the angelic spirits and the souls of the just enjoy in Heaven.	3	Gregory of Nyssa	Preparation for the transformation of creation	Eternal	Outside time	
4	Symbolic?	Moltmann: so of Jesus’ teachings imply heaven is a transformation of the present. Also links to Parousia and the transformation of this earth into a new heaven (Revelation)	4	Origen	Probationary period to purify the soul	Final judgement	Judgement of all nations at the end of time	
5	Hope?	“The hope doesn’t point to another world. It is focused on the redemption of this one.”	5	Hick	Resolves God’s benevolence and justice – universal salvation includes some purification	Heaven	Life after death with God – reward	
			Hell			Hell	Life after death without God – punishment	
			1	Actual?	Dante’s Hell had punishments to fit each crime, e.g. lustful people punished by being blown around by strong winds forever. Augustine: hell is a literal lake of fire in which the damned will experience the horror of everlasting torment	Judgement	God bestows reward or punishment to a soul based on their good and bad actions in life	
			2			Spiritual	Limited election	A few are selected for Heaven by God
			3				Symbol	Parousia
			2	Spiritual	Particular judgement	Individual judgement at death		
			3		Symbol	Purgatory	Catholic belief in a period before heaven to purify the soul	
			4	Symbol		Salvation	God saves someone from sin and hell	
			5		Symbol	Transformation	The world changes for the better	
			6	Symbol		Universalism	Everyone goes to heaven	
			7		Symbol	Unlimited election	Everyone is called to be saved but only a few will be	
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5	Hope?	“The hope doesn’t point to another world. It is focused on the redemption of this one.”	5	Hick	Resolves God’s benevolence and justice – universal salvation includes some purification	Heaven	Life after death with God – reward
Election			Hell			Hell	Life after death without God – punishment
1	Limited Election?	Calvin and Augustine: God elects a few to be saved out of love. Humans cannot control their chance of salvation	1	Actual?	Dante’s Hell had punishments to fit each crime, e.g. lustful people punished by being blown around by strong winds forever. Augustine: hell is a literal lake of fire in which the damned will experience the horror of everlasting torment	Judgement	God bestows reward or punishment to a soul based on their good and bad actions in life
2	Unlimited election?	Barth: Through Jesus, everyone is called to salvation but not everyone accepts Jesus	2			Limited election	A few are selected for Heaven by God
3	Universalism	Hick: everyone suffers and so should be saved because God is benevolent.	3	Spiritual	Pope John Paul II: “hell is the ultimate consequence of sin itself... Rather than a place, hell indicates the state of those who freely and definitively separate themselves from God, the source of all life and joy”. Take care with language	Parousia	Second coming of Christ
4	Sheep and Goats	Jesus’ parable teaches that people are saved for putting faith into action and helping others.	3			Particular judgement	Individual judgement at death
 <p>This DCT unit explores different beliefs about life after death. This unit links to DCT Pluralism and Philosophy Problem of Evil and Soul.</p>			3	Symbol	C S Lewis: God as the judge is a visual metaphor. To be in Hell means to be forever cut off from God’s presence, eternally unable to know God’s love and mercy and fire symbolises this	Purgatory	Catholic belief in a period before heaven to purify the soul
			A02 Discussion: • When does God’s judgement happen? • Are heaven and hell eternal? • Is heaven transformation of this world or a new world?			Salvation	God saves someone from sin and hell
						Transformation	The world changes for the better
						Universalism	Everyone goes to heaven
						Unlimited election	Everyone is called to be saved but only a few will be